

What is claimed is:

1. A printing apparatus comprising:

a bitmap data storage unit for storing bitmap data;

a bitmap data acquisition unit for acquiring said bitmap data from said

5 bitmap data storage unit;

a jaggy elimination processing unit for executing processing of eliminating  
jaggies on said bitmap data; and

a printing unit for printing data that is produced based on processing results  
from said jaggy elimination processing unit.

10 2. The printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

said jaggy elimination processing unit comprises:

a jaggy detection unit for detecting jaggies appearing on said bitmap data;

and

a vector data production unit for producing vector data, based on all

15 stair-like straight lines on jaggies that were detected by said jaggy detection unit, by  
drawing a straight line from a midpoint of one straight line to a midpoint of another  
straight line adjacent thereto.

3. The printing apparatus according to any one of claims 1 and 2 further comprising:

a transformation rule retention unit for retaining data transformation rules

20 for transforming bitmap data; and

a data transformation unit for transforming part of said bitmap data  
according to said transformation rules,

said printing unit printing data that is produced based on transformation  
results from said data transformation unit and processing results from said jaggy  
25 elimination processing unit.

4. The printing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein

said transformation rules include  $3 \times 3$  dot patterns before transformation  
and  $3 \times 3$  dot patterns after transformation; and

5 according to said transformation rules, if a dot pattern on said bitmap data  
matches any one of said dot patterns before transformation, said pattern is  
transformed into a corresponding one of said dot patterns after transformation.

5. A computer program that enables a computer to execute the steps of:

acquiring bitmap data stored on the computer;

eliminating jaggies appearing on said bitmap data; and

10 specifying printing of data that is produced based on processing results  
obtained in said jaggy elimination step.

6. The computer program according to claim 5 that enables the computer to further execute  
the step of transforming part of said bitmap data according to transformation rules  
stored on the computer, and

15 wherein said step of specifying printing of data that is produced based on  
processing results obtained in said jaggy elimination step.